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Title:Need to set up a Cashew Board in Kollam district, Kerala.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): The Government of India has accepted in principle, setting up of a Cashew Board for the welfare of the cashew Industry in India. As in the case of Rubber Board, Coir Board etc, a Cashew Board is highly essential for the overall growth of cashew industry. This Cashew Board can be constituted under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

There are about 3 lakh cashew workers engaged in various factories owned by Government controlled CAPEX Society as well as in private sector in Kollam District in Kerala. It is a very long pending issue which is frequently taken up by the Members of Parliament as well as the Government of Kerala. If the Cashew board is set up in Kollam District, the export of cashew could be flourished and a sizeable amount, by way of foreign exchange, will be available to the Government. Moreover, the welfare of the employees engaged in cashew industry will also improve to a great extent.

I, therefore, request the Government of India through this august House, to take suitable steps in the direction of setting up of the Cashew Board at Kollam District at the earliest, since it is the main centre of cashew producing place in India.